

**LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**A RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE UP TO \$1 MILLION IN DISASTER  
RECOVERY FUNDS TO PERFORM A STUDY OF THE DAMAGE SUSTAINED  
BY AND THE POTENTIAL RISK TO WATER AQUIFERS CAUSED BY  
HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA.**

Whereas, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita damaged more than 3,000 water wells within 13 parishes in the state of Louisiana;

Whereas, post-storm, limited field investigations have suggested that many of the damaged wells were broken at ground level and remain open to the environment;

Whereas, the wells now have approximately 1.3 Million linear feet of open conduit which may allow contaminated surface water to flow into the drinking water aquifers that currently service several regions within the state;

Whereas, locating, cataloguing, and assessing the nature and extent of the damage water wells sustained will assist the state in identifying abandoned wells and wells that should be plugged to eliminate future risks to drinking water aquifers;

Whereas, protecting the infrastructure that supports healthy drinking water is within the public interest of the state of Louisiana and is an important component of the state's rebuilding efforts that must be addressed;

Whereas, funding a study of the damage caused to the state's water aquifers will help the state identify resources that will be necessary to minimize or eliminate risks associated with the damage; and

Whereas, funding a study of the damage caused to the state's water aquifers will assist the state in ensuring that Louisiana citizens have access to safe, uncontaminated drinking water.

Whereas, CDBG Disaster Recovery Action Plan Amendment 2 gives the LRA authority to designate criteria for the Office of Community Development to use in allocating CDBG funds within the Local Government Infrastructure Program to cover infrastructure costs that are ineligible for FEMA Public Assistance.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby approve a study of the damages sustained by and the potential risks to water aquifers caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita as an addition to the eligible criteria for the Local Government Emergency Infrastructure Program, absent the identification of an alternative funding source.